



State Senator

**Liz Brater**

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing, MI 48909-7536



**Serving the  
18<sup>th</sup> District**

## CONTACT INFORMATION

P.O. Box 30036  
Lansing, MI 48909-7536

Telephone: (517) 373.2406  
Toll-Free: (866) 305.0318

Fax: (517) 373.5679

E-Mail: [senlbrater@  
senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senlbrater@senate.michigan.gov)

Website: [www.senate.  
michigan.gov/brater](http://www.senate.michigan.gov/brater)



## 2004 General Election Ballot Proposals

### State Senator **LIZ BRATER**

Dear Voter:

*At the November 2 general election, you will have a chance to play an important role in establishing Michigan public policy. Not only will you have the opportunity to select candidates in the party of your choice, but also two statewide ballot proposals will be presented for your consideration.*

*This newsletter contains information to help familiarize you with the pros and cons of those two proposals. Included is the actual language that will appear on the ballot along with brief analyses of the important issues at hand. The analyses do not necessarily reflect my views. The intent is to bring you the strongest arguments for and against each proposal so you can make an informed decision on these issues.*

*I hope that you find this information to be of value. Please do not hesitate to call toll-free at (866) 305.0318 or e-mail me at [senlbrater@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senlbrater@senate.michigan.gov) if I can be of further service to you.*

Sincerely,

Liz Brater  
State Senator

**Remember to VOTE!  
November 2**

Official Ballot Proposal Language **PROPOSAL 04-1**

A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO REQUIRE VOTER APPROVAL OF ANY FORM OF GAMBLING AUTHORIZED BY LAW AND CERTAIN NEW STATE LOTTERY GAMES

The proposed constitutional amendment would:

- ★ Require voter approval of any form of gambling authorized by law after January 1, 2004.
- ★ Require voter approval of any new state lottery games utilizing “table games” or “player operated mechanical or electronic devices” introduced after January 1, 2004.
- ★ Provide that when voter approval is required, both statewide voter approval and voter approval in the city or township where gambling will take place must be obtained.
- ★ Specify that the voter approval requirement does not apply to Indian tribal gaming or gambling in up to three casinos located in the City of Detroit.

Should this proposal be adopted? ☐ Yes ☐ No

People Voting YES  
Argue That:

It requires both a statewide and a local vote to allow any new form of gambling in Michigan. Requiring voter approval for gaming is not new – the State Lottery and Detroit Casinos were both approved by the voters. It would not prohibit any new casino-type gaming in Michigan. It gives voters the final decision. It's not pro-gambling or anti-gambling expansion. It is pro-voters.

People Voting NO  
Argue That:

It is backed by current casino operators to protect their current gaming monopoly. It is an attempt to block proposed expanded gambling at racetracks intended to reinvigorate the state's horse racing industry. It could hamper the Lottery's effort to develop new games and jeopardize future school funding. Tribal gaming expansion would not be subject to a vote of the people.

Official Ballot Proposal Language **PROPOSAL 04-2**

A PROPOSAL TO AMEND THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO SPECIFY WHAT CAN BE RECOGNIZED AS A “MARRIAGE OR SIMILAR UNION” FOR ANY PURPOSE

- ★ The proposal would amend the state constitution to provide that “the union of one man and one woman in marriage shall be the only agreement recognized as a marriage or similar union for any purpose.”

Should this proposal be adopted? ☐ Yes ☐ No

People Voting YES  
Argue That:

It provides protection for the sanctity of marriage, ensuring that it will remain something that is for one man and one woman only. The measure prevents judges from voiding existing Michigan law which bans gay marriage.

People Voting NO  
Argue That:

The proposal would not only install a constitutional ban against allowing marriages for same-sex partners, it could also block civil unions, and potentially prevent state and local governments or even educational institutions from granting same-sex partners the same benefits as married couples. There is currently a state law preventing same-sex marriage.

These two issues will be on the November 2, 2004 General Election Ballot.

VOTE NOVEMBER 2!

CONTACT SENATOR LIZ BRATER

Toll-Free (866) 305.0318 • [senlbrater@senate.michigan.gov](mailto:senlbrater@senate.michigan.gov)